

**MANUAL OF GASTRO-INTESTINAL ENDOSCOPY.** By Eddy D. Palmer and H. Worth Boyce, Jr. (Pp. 133, figs. 48, 70s.). London : Baillière, Tindall & Cox, 1964.

THIS useful manual contains a description of endoscopy as it applies to gastroenterology. There are a few black and white figures, largely to illustrate technical procedure but none to illustrate the appearances seen, and in this respect it is severely lacking. But, as a resumé of a subject which is beginning to be of increasing importance it provides a good introduction. The author speaks from considerable personal experience and has many wise and helpful instructions to give the novice in this subject. He puts so much of his own personal practice into it that at times it gives the impression that it is the only way to do this sort of work. This does not on the whole detract from the book but adds to the helpfulness of the instruction given.

The bibliography is adequate and taken from the literature of many countries.

In each section there is a description of the indications, the instruments available, a number of sketches of the techniques required and warnings as to the dangers that may be encountered. There is more emphasis on oesophagoscopy than it merits in comparison with some of the other procedures.

The writing loses a little by not being concise. The cost (70/-) for so small a paper back is exorbitant, but with these small criticisms one can safely say that it is a book that gastroenterologists should include in their libraries.

H. W. R.

**THE ART OF GENERAL PRACTICE.** By D. C. Morrell, M.B., M.R.C.P. (Pp. viii+124, 12s. 6d.). Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone, 1965.

THIS is an interesting contribution to the literature of general practice. The author describes it as a series of essays about problems which he encountered on entering general practice, mostly related to the different circumstances in which disease has to be diagnosed and treated, the differing pattern of diagnoses and the special relationship between patient and family doctor.

The young doctor moving from hospital practice to general practice is often puzzled and sometimes dismayed by the contrast. Writing out of his own recent experience Dr. Morrell has many wise and useful things to say, supported by careful observation and case-histories from his own experience.

This short book should be of the greatest interest to any doctor who has recently begun general practice or who is contemplating doing so. It would also be of interest and value to workers in other medical fields who have not had the opportunity of experience in that field of medicine.

R.P.M.

**CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS IN LABOUR.** By R. H. J. Hamlin, O.B.E., M.A. (Hons.), M.B., Ch.B. (N.Z.), F.R.C.O.G. Second Edition (Pp. 178, figs. 35, 20s.). Edinburgh and London: E. & S. Livingstone, 1965.

THIS book provides some very important information on the recognition of various complications in labour.

The need for diagnostic accuracy is well illustrated in the opening chapters in the discussion on dystocia of contracted pelvis.

Only someone with the vast clinical experience of the author could have emphasized such a large number of diagnostic points in as concise a manner.

Unique in its presentation this book should provide a valuable addition to the library of those practising obstetrics.

J.M.G.H.